

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for providing supplemental information related to a television program, the method comprising:

storing a plurality of program interface objects (PIOs) within a memory of an entertainment system, each PIO comprising a single discrete data structure for representing a single respective television program, each PIO encapsulating:

(i) attribute data for one or more attributes providing information about the single television program, at least one attribute comprising a link to supplemental information related to the television program,

(ii) a plurality of actions to be performed in connection with the single television program, wherein each of the actions are represented within the PIO as program code, wherein the program code comprises, for each action, a routine in a machine independent format that is executable ~~in a Java virtual machine~~ within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action, and

(iii) graphical data for display as an icon to visually represent the PIO within a graphical user interface (GUI), the GUI being other than a grid-based electronic program guide (EPG) including rows corresponding to television channels;

displaying representations of a plurality of folders in a first area of the GUI, each folder being associated with one or more PIOs;

in response to a user selecting a particular folder in the first area,  
displaying an icon for each PIO associated with the selected folder in a second area of  
the GUI;

displaying the icons representing the plurality of PIOs in the GUI;

in response to [[a]] the user picking an icon of a selected PIO within the  
second area GUI, displaying a context menu listing the one or more actions associated  
with the selected PIO, at least one of the actions for displaying supplemental  
information related to the associated television program;

in response to the action for displaying supplemental information being  
selected from the context menu, using the at least one attribute comprising the link to  
retrieve the supplemental information referenced by the link; and

displaying the retrieved supplemental information in a third area of the  
GUI.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving comprises:  
establishing communication with a supplemental information server;  
requesting the supplemental information referenced by the link from the  
supplemental information server; and  
receiving the requested supplemental information.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the supplemental information  
server comprises an Internet server.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link comprises a file name.
6. (canceled).
7. (canceled).
8. (canceled).
9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying comprises:  
automatically displaying the supplemental information in response to the television program being presented by the entertainment system.
10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying comprises:  
automatically displaying the supplemental information prior to the television program being presented by the entertainment system.
11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying comprises:  
launching a browser configured to display the supplemental information;  
and  
displaying the supplemental information within the browser.

12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the PIO comprises a set of link attributes, each link attribute comprising a different link to a set of supplemental information.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
displaying a list of link attributes associated with the PIO; and  
receiving a user selection of a particular link attribute from the list of link attributes.

14. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the supplemental information comprises an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) document.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the PIO comprises a JavaBean object.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the entertainment system is selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, an interactive television (ITV) system, and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

17. (cancelled).

18. (cancelled).

19. (cancelled).

20. (cancelled).

21. (cancelled).

22. (cancelled).

23. (cancelled).

24. (cancelled).

25. (cancelled).

26. (cancelled).

27. (cancelled).

28. (cancelled).

29. (cancelled).

30. (cancelled).

31. (cancelled).

32. (cancelled).

33. (cancelled).

34. (cancelled).

35. (cancelled).

36. (cancelled).

37. (currently amended) A system for providing supplemental information related to a television program, the system comprising:

computer-readable medium that stores a plurality of program interface objects (PIOs), each PIO comprising a single discrete data structure that encapsulates:

attribute data for one or more attributes providing information about a single television program, at least one attribute comprising a link to supplemental information related to the television program,

a plurality of actions to be performed in connection with the single television program, wherein each of the actions are represented within the PIO as program code, wherein the program code comprises, for each action, a routine in a machine independent format that is executable ~~in a Java virtual machine~~ within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action, and

graphical data for display as an icon to visually represent the PIO within a graphical user interface (GUI), the GUI being other than a grid-based electronic program guide (EPG) including rows corresponding to television channels;

a display component that displays representations of a plurality of folders in a first area of the GUI, each folder being associated with one or more PIOs, wherein the display component is to display, in response to a user selecting a particular folder in the first area, an icon for each PIO associated with the selected folder in a second area

~~of the GUI, and wherein the display component is to display, displays the icons representing the plurality of PIOs in the GUI and, in response to [[a]] the user picking an icon of a selected PIO within the second area GUI, a context menu listing the one or more actions associated with the selected PIO, at least one of the actions for displaying supplemental information related to the associated television program; and~~

a retrieval component that, in response to the action for displaying supplemental information being selected from the context menu, uses the at least one attribute comprising the link to retrieve the supplemental information referenced by the link, wherein the display component displays the retrieved supplemental information in a third area of the GUI ~~on a display device associated with the entertainment system.~~

38. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, further comprising:

a communication component that establishes communication with a supplemental information server and requests the supplemental information referenced by the link from the supplemental information server.

39. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the supplemental information server comprises an Internet server.

40. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the link comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

41. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the link comprises a file name.



42. (canceled).

43. (canceled).

44. (canceled).

45. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the display component is configured to automatically display the supplemental information in response to the television program being presented by the entertainment system.

46. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the display component is configured to automatically display the supplemental information prior to the television program being presented by the entertainment system.

47. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the display component is configured to automatically launch a browser configured to display the supplemental information and display the supplemental information within the browser.

48. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the PIO comprises a set of link attributes, each link attribute comprising a different link to a set of supplemental information.

49. (previously presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the display component is further configured to display a list of link attributes associated with the PIO and receive a user selection of a particular link attribute from the list of link attributes.

50. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the supplemental information comprises an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) document.

51. (previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the PIO comprises a JavaBean object.

52. (currently amended) A system for providing supplemental information related to a television program, the system comprising:

means for storing a plurality of program interface objects (PIOs) within a memory of an entertainment system, each PIO comprising a single discrete data structure for representing a single respective television program, each PIO encapsulating:

attribute data for one or more attributes providing information about a single television program, at least one attribute comprising a link to supplemental information related to the television program,

a plurality of actions to be performed in connection with the single television program, wherein each of the actions are represented within the PIO as program code, wherein the program code comprises, for each action, a routine in a machine independent format that is executable ~~in a Java virtual machine~~ within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action, and

graphical data for display as an icon to visually represent the PIO within a graphical user interface (GUI), the GUI being other than a grid-based electronic program guide (EPG) including rows corresponding to television channels;

means for displaying representations of a plurality of folders in a first area of the GUI, each folder being associated with one or more PIOs;

means for displaying, in response to a user selecting a particular folder in the first area, an icon for each PIO associated with the selected folder in a second area of the GUI;

~~means for displaying the icons representing the plurality of PIOs in the GUI and,~~ in response to a user picking an icon of a selected PIO within the GUI, displaying a context menu listing the one or more actions associated with the selected PIO, at least one of the actions for displaying supplemental information related to the associated television program; and

means for retrieving, in response to the action for displaying supplemental information being selected from the context menu, the supplemental information referenced by the link; and

~~wherein the means for displaying is configured to display~~ the retrieved supplemental information in a third area of the GUI.

53. (cancelled).

54. (cancelled).

55. (cancelled).

56. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with a particular user of the entertainment system.

57. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein two or more folders in the first area are organized into a hierarchy having a root node corresponding to a particular user of the entertainment system.

58. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs being broadcast on a particular day.

59. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs of a particular genre.

60. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with a particular user of the entertainment system.

61. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein two or more folders in the first area are organized into a hierarchy having a root node corresponding to a particular user of the entertainment system.

62. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs being broadcast on a particular day.

63. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs of a particular genre.